



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

June 20, 2006

News Release

ICE to host local recruiting seminars for entry-level special agents

LOS ANGELES – U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is seeking talented, well-rounded college graduates who are interested in a career as a special agent for the Department of Homeland Security's largest investigative agency.

ICE's Los Angeles office of investigations is hosting two informational seminars next week to brief prospective applicants on the agency's mission and provide guidance on the hiring process. The sessions will be held Thursday, June 29, at the Federal Building, 300 N. Los Angeles Street, room 8529. There will be a morning session from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., and an afternoon session from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. Advance reservations are required by Monday, June 26, and can be made by calling (562) 624-3800, ext. 3765.

ICE agents are involved in a wide variety of domestic and international activities stemming from the movement of people and goods that violate immigration and custom laws and threaten national security. ICE agents work cases related to human smuggling, money laundering, narcotics and weapons trafficking, financial crimes, commercial fraud, and violations relating to intellectual property rights. The agency maintains field offices across the country and around the globe.

Newly hired agents will be brought on board at the GS-5 or GS-7 level, but with yearly promotions they can expect to rise to the GS-13 level within five years. The starting salary includes an additional 25 percent annually in Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP). For those hired as GS-5s in the Los Angeles area, that amounts to a salary of more than \$38,278 a year, together with more than \$9,570 a year in LEAP. For an entry level GS-7 in Los Angeles, the starting pay exceeds \$43,568 a year, with an additional \$10,892 in LEAP. Agents also receive generous benefits, including health and life insurance, a law enforcement retirement plan, holiday and sick leave, as well as tuition reimbursement.

"Being an ICE special agent is an exciting and challenging career," said Kevin Kozak, acting special agent in charge of the ICE office of investigations in Los Angeles. "These jobs have excellent benefits and advancement potential, but perhaps the greatest reward is knowing that you are doing something to help keep this nation safe."

To qualify for a GS-5 position, applicants must have a bachelor's degree or three years of law enforcement experience, or a combination of the two. The GS-7 level requires either one full year of graduate level education, or at least one year of specialized law enforcement experience. In addition, applicants must be under 37 years of age and pass a background investigation, medical exam, and drug test. The only way to apply is through an ICE, Office of Investigations recruiter.